

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A printer controlling method, comprising:

(a) classifying a page area to be printed into image data and font data, when a printing command is received from an application;

(b) dividing the image data according to objects and processing the image data in units of objects; and

(c) counting the number of functions for outputting the objects processed in step (b), and converting the page area into a bitmap if the counted value is equal to or greater than a limit value.

2. The printer controlling method of claim 1, further comprising the step of processing only the area having no objects as a bitmap when there is an image data area that cannot be divided into objects.

3. The printer controlling method of claim 1, wherein the step (c) further comprises a step of processing the image data in units of objects if the counted value is smaller than the limit value.

4. A printer controlling apparatus, comprising:

a graphic engine unit for dividing a printing page received from an application into image

data and font data;

a printer driver for dividing the image data into objects and producing a bitmap command if the number of functions depending on objects is equal to or greater than a limit value or producing an object-unit command if the number of functions is smaller than the limit value; and a printer for printing the page according to the command produced by the printer driver.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, said printer driver comprising:

a graphic module unit for processing image data; and  
a font module unit for processing font data.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, said graphic module unit comprises:

a vector module unit; and  
a raster module unit.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, said vector module unit comprises:

a path module unit for dividing said image data into objects and producing commands for said objects; and  
a brush module unit for dividing said image data by colors and producing commands for said colors.

1           8.     The apparatus of claim 6, said raster module unit comprising a bit map module  
2     unit for converting said image data into a bitmap and producing a command for said bitmap.

1           9.     The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said font module unit comprises:

2           a first font type unit that corresponds to a download truetype font;

3           a second font type unit that corresponds to a download bitmap font; and

4           a third font type unit that corresponds to a truetype font that is graphic.

1           10.    A printer controlling method, comprising:

2           generating a printing command at a user's request from an application;

3           dividing the area of a printing page into image data and font data when said printing  
4     command is received from said application;

5           determining whether said printing page is image data or font data;

6           producing font command if said printing page is font data;

7           determining if vector mode is selected by said user if said printing page is image data;

8           producing a raster command when said printing page is image data and vector mode is  
9     not selected by said user;

10          executing vector mode where image data is processed as object-unit commands if vector  
11     mode is selected by said user;

12          determining if there are vector object functions present if vector mode is selected by said

13 user;

14 producing raster commands for areas of said printing page that have no vector objects if

15 vector mode is selected by said user;

16 counting a number of vector object functions present if vector mode is selected by said

17 user;

18 determining whether said number of vector object functions is less than a predetermined

19 value if vector mode is selected by said user;

20 producing a vector command for processing a page area in units of objects if said number

21 of vector object functions is less than said predetermined value;

22 producing a raster command for processing a page area corresponding to said counted

23 functions as a bitmap if said number of vector object functions is not less than said

24 predetermined value; and

25 transferring any raster commands, font commands, and vector commands to a printer.